

# Weaverland

*Settlement - Settlers - Graveyard  
and its Four Plantations*

*Now (1933) Divided into Forty-five  
Farms*



*By  
M. G. WEAVER*

*New Holland*      -:-      *Pennsylvania*



*November first*

*Nineteen hundred and thirty-three*



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*Revised and reprinted from The New Holland Clarion*

# FOREWORD



HIS LITTLE VOLUME was written for the purpose of preserving the names of the ancestors and first settlers of Weaverand, to give the location of their early homes, and to provide a means of tracing their numerous lines of descent to people now residing in Lancaster county, and in nearly every state of the Union and in Canada.

It is dedicated to the memory of my father  
and mother,

GIDEON WEBER and SUSANNA GOOD  
and to my brothers and sister

AARON, CHRISTIAN, DAVID, DANIEL WEAVER  
and

ANNA WEAVER NOLT GOOD

all of whom have gone to join the ancestral families in a better realm; tracing their line from the first settler, Henry Weber, and Maudlin Kendig; Christian Weber and Magdalena Rutt; and Samuel Weber and Anna Heatwole, as herein mentioned as sleeping on the original lands, and Christian Weber and Anna Myers, whose tombs are in the graveyard at the Pike, or Stauffer, meetinghouse in Earl township.

In the hope that it may create an interest in searching out the histories of our fathers and mothers, and a desire to preserve a more profound respect for the memory of those who made it possible for us and our children to enjoy the peaceful, quiet, prosperous Christian communities, here and elsewhere, this little volume is sent forth.

MARTIN G. WEAVER

New Holland, Lancaster County, Pa.

November, 1933

by David H Weber Mar 6<sup>th</sup> 1945.

Amos M Weber

## Early History Traced Through Weaverland Cemetery

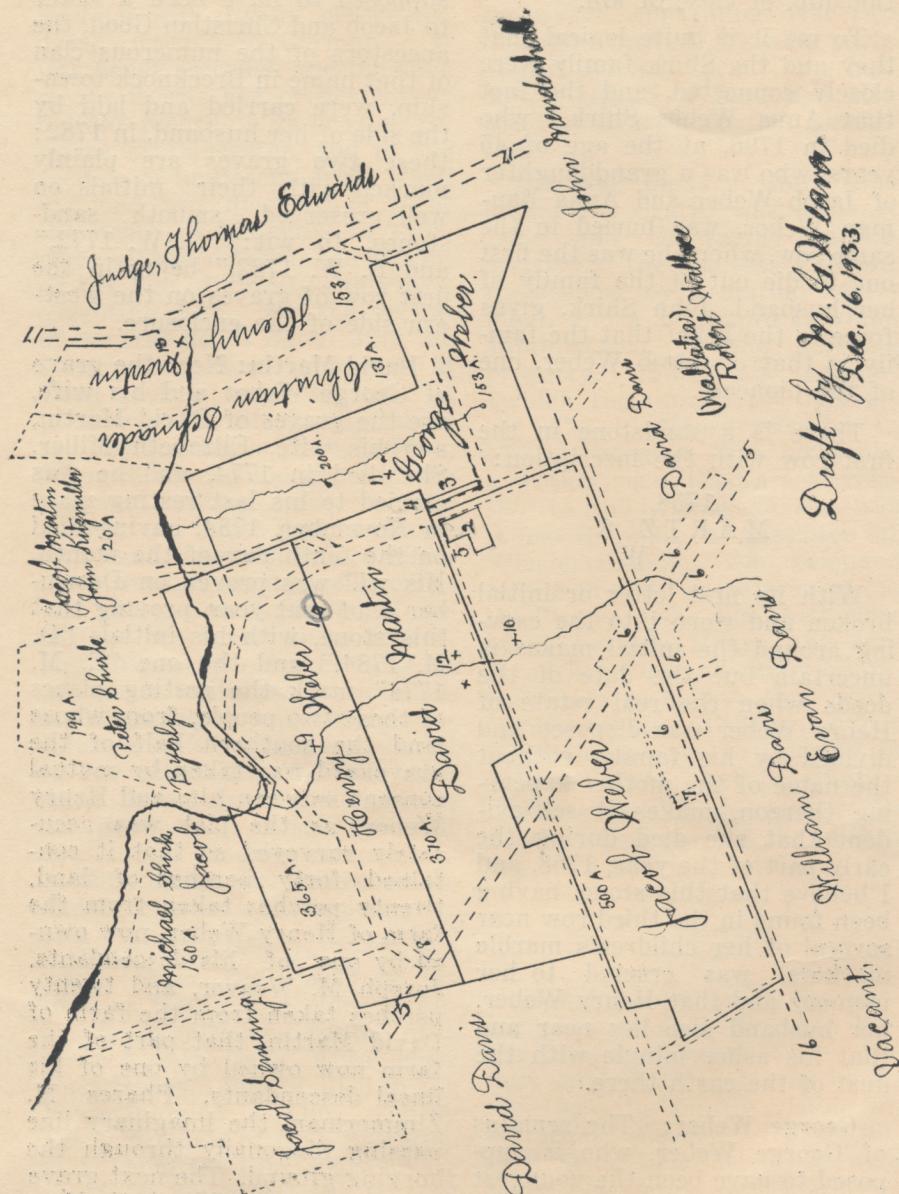


Eighteen miles east of Lancaster, two miles northeast of Blue Ball, in East Earl township, Lancaster county, Pa., near the hard road leading from Blue Ball to Terre Hill, a short distance northwest from the Weaverland meeting houses, is a small graveyard, enclosed with a five rail post fence, which was kept and protected by such fencing nearly two hundred years by the descendants of the several families whose ancestors had planned to bury their dead in this sacred spot; but to the average resident of the community and to the stranger it was a spot of neglect, because it was often overgrown with weeds before the weary relatives thought of mowing and cleaning it, which was done about twice a year.

Within this small inclosure the dust of the earth has mingled with the mortal remains of the first white settlers of the beautiful vale known and remembered as "Weber's Thal," "Weaver's Dale," now Weaverland, since the organization of the first Mennonite congregation, by that name in 1730.

**Henry Weber:** In May or June, 1745, the remains of Henry Weber, owner of the land from which half of the graveyard was taken, were borne across the fields from his humble home on the east banks of what is now known as Blue Ball Run, a home which he had erected during the summer of 1722, and occupied by his family since the spring of 1723, which with the homes of his brothers, were the first real homes for family life in this date.

This home was midway between the present farm seats of Joseph M. Weaver and Henry M. Weaver. Henry Weber was about 54 years old and left his widow, who was Maudlin Kendig, before marriage, a daughter of Jacob Kendig, and a granddaughter of Martin Kendig, of the first ship load of Mennonite colonists on the Pequea, who with two sons, Henry, aged 9, and Christian, fourteen years, with six daughters, several of them married, one of them, Eva, who afterwards became the wife of John Wissler was an infant. To this pioneer widow, it be-



Draft by Mr. G. Wilson  
Dec. 16, 1933.

Sacant,

## KEY TO MAP

### *Including Concise Information*

1. The Old Graveyard.
2. Graveyard started in 1792, taken from Jacob Weber tract.
3. Cemetery started in 1930, taken from George Weber tract.
4. Brick Meetinghouse and school house taken from David Martin tract (1776, 1853, 1883, 1926).
5. Stone Meetinghouse, taken from Jacob Weber tract (1894).
6. Village of Blue Ball founded about 1760, or earlier.
7. Brethren Meetinghouse and graveyard (1879).
8. Earl Union School.
9. Henry Weber's first farm contained 365 acres; survey finished October 24, 1726. Final return made September 5, 1741.
10. Jacob Weber's first farm, contained 500 acres. Survey finished October 24, 1726. Final return made May 28, 1741.
11. George Weber's first farm, contained 200 acres. Survey finished October 24, 1726. Final return made February 16, 1742.  
George Weber's second part of his farm contained 153 acres. Surveyed and confirmed to him August 16, 1738.
12. David Martin's first farm, contained 370 acres. Survey finished October 24, 1726. Final report made February 26, 1738.
13. Henry Martin's first survey was finished January 10, 1733; contained 153 acres. Final return made October 10, 1747.
14. Christian Schneder's first home plantation was surveyed and confirmed on the same dates as Henry Martin's grant.
15. Paxton Road, laid out in 1736; now Route No. 5.
16. Lancaster to Coventry Road laid out in 1738; now Route No. 23.
17. Old State Road, now Route No. 73.

missing figures to have been 1759.

**Andreas Martin:** Very reliable traditional information, with proofs of its accuracy, tells us that Andreas Martin, the father of David Martin, having been imprisoned and detained in Switzerland, when his son sailed for America in 1728, came over many years later and made his home with his son, where he died. Rupp's "Thirty Thousand Names" gives the name of Martin Andras, who came to the port of Philadelphia in 1749.

A saying came to the writer from a descendant of David Martin, through George, Abraham, George and Isaac W., that his grandchildren often spoke about the heavy swaths of grass which were cut and mowed by their grandfather with his large German scythe, which he brought with him from Europe, because his rows were harder to spread for drying. The same story came to the writer from the descendants through another line of descent, as being told and repeated in Canada. Another line of lineal descendants told and retold the sayings to their children and it came from Indiana back to the old home. All these graves are found in the first row, along the western side of the enclosure.

**Peter Shirk:** In 1770, Peter Shirk, the first known resident preacher at Weaverland, died, leaving a widow, Mary Shirk, and about the same time his brother, Michael Shirk died, leaving a widow, Elizabeth Shirk. Peter lived on a bluff, just north of the Conestoga, on a farm seat long in the possession of his descendants, but now owned by Rufus Martin; and

Michael Shirk having his farm seat on the same side of the creek, farther down the stream, at the farm long known as the home of blind John S. Wenger, are both believed to have been borne to this sacred spot as their last repose, and that their place of burial was along the eastern side of the plot, since in that section are found many of their descendants who were the offspring of their intermarriage with the Weber and Martin families.

These six families, all of whom resided within shouting distance of the graveyard, excepting possibly the family of Michael Shirk, constituted the very first families of white people, to settle and to develop this immediate community, which makes this spot sacred to the memory of many hundreds of people whose ancestors scattered far and near this, their first American home.

**Christian Weber:** Passing on to the second generation in America, we notice the grave of Christian Weber, in the first row. He was the second son of Henry Weber, born December 25 (Christmas Day), 1731. Married Magdalena Rutt, (said to have been a sister to Christian Rutt, of Cedar Run), September 30, 1749. They lived together for fifty-five years on the homestead built for them, and now owned by Christian M. Zimmerman, on a section or half part of the original Henry Weber purchase. His wife died February 16, 1804, being in the 71st year of her age. Sixteen years later, February 13, 1820, he died and was laid to rest beside the remains of his wife, aged 88 years, 1 month and 9 days.

From a letter in German, printed after his death, we learn that these venerable people were the parents of seventeen children, nine daughters and seven sons. Seven sons and five daughters had ninety-nine children at the time of his death. He also had 188 great-grandchildren, and five great, great grandchildren at the time of his death, leaving a total of 309 descendants.

His lifelong friend, and one of his nearest neighbors, Bishop Henry Martin, preached the funeral sermon from the text: Revelation 14: 12-13. He announced the hymn, now numbered 203 in the old German hymn books, "Mieni Sorgin, Angst und Plagen Laufen Mit Der Zeit Zu End."

**Heine, or Henry Weber:** In the third row, we find the tomb of his younger brother, Henry, who was known from his youth as "Heine" Weber. He followed his brother to their final resting place twenty-four days later, he having died in the large stone mansion still standing and occupied by Henry M. Weaver (the seventh) and his family, and which he built for himself in 1764. He died March 20, 1826, aged 89 years and 11 months. His wife, who was Eva Hershey, died May 7, 1799, aged 62 years and 4 months.

Their six sisters married and moved from the immediate vicinity and scenes of their childhood. They were not interred in the old family "Gottas Ackar."

**Henry Weber:** In the first row, Henry Weber, son of George, was laid to rest beside his parents, having lived with them on the old homestead at the springs. He died Sep-

tember 12, 1787, at the age of 49 years, 10 months and 8 days. His wife, or widow, Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_, died at the old homestead, June 22, 1815, aged 72 years, 9 months and 26 days.

**Hans Weber:** Hans Weber, a brother to the last named Henry, the oldest son of George and Barbara Weber, lies buried in the fourth row. He was born in 1730, and died October 20, 1802, aged 72 years. He lived and died on the homestead near Goodville, on the north bank of Cedar Run, afterwards handed down to his son, Samuel, then to his son, Jonathan, and finally was the home of the Levi Martin family, and is now owned by Jonas M. Zimmerman. Hans Weber's first wife was Magdalena Myers, with whom he had several children. But whether she is interred here and has no marker to her grave is not known. His second wife, Franey, or Feronica Seichrist, with whom he had a large and influential family of sons and daughters, followed her husband to this cemetery seven months later, having died May 20, 1803. None of their children came to the same city of the dead.

**Maria Stauffer:** In the second row, we find the tombs of Maria Weber and her husband, Peter Stauffer. She was one of the daughters of the first settler, George Weber, and a sister to Hans and Henry. When her husband died November 2, 1787, she buried him with her ancestors at this place, and when she died June 30, 1791, her family brought their mother and laid her by his side, although none of them followed their parents to this spot. The tombstones tell nothing as to their ages nor

the time of their birth. They lived on a farm south of Goodville, which has never been out of the ancestral name of Stauffer to this date (1933). It is now known as the Ed. Stauffer farm.

**Samuel Weaver:** Another brother in this family, died in the early part of the year 1770, as his will was probated on March 12 of that year. He lived on that section of his father's original farm, now occupied by the farm building of Adam Z. Martin, and Edwin H. Martin. The present beautiful cemetery at Weaverland was not yet started and we have many reasons to believe that this brother was buried in the little graveyard with his parents and brothers and sister. However, no stone can be found to prove the matter. His widow, Barbara Kauffman, was married to John Myer, as her second husband, and they moved to York county, with some of the daughters. One son, Samuel, inherited the farm, and acquired it at the age of 21 years. This son with his sons, Abraham and Samuel E., are buried close together in the present nicely kept cemetery at Weaverland. The late A. M. Weaver, of East Earl, M. M. Weaver, of Mountville, and T. W. Wanner, of Blue Ball, are grandsons of that Samuel Weaver, who inherited the old farm.

**Martin Martin:** One of the sons of David Martin, the first settler by that name, was born on the original settlement farm of his father, December 23, 1736. He owned a third section of it, being 122 acres and 12 perches thereof, which his father sold to him in 1772, where he lived in the farm house erected for him

and his family, at the spring, on the farm seat, now owned and occupied by Aaron Z. Zimmerman until his death January 23, 1811, aged 74 years, 1 month. His wife, Barbara, died May 17, 1816, aged 75 years. They are buried in the seventh row, the only graves marked in that row, and are the only ones of the immediate family of the first settler to be buried with him in the plot of ground which he so kindly gave to the brethren in the church.

The family history of the descendants of Martin Martin, are given in a well compiled pamphlet written by Abraham G. Wanner, of Earl township.

**John Shirk:** In the last row along the eastern fence of this enclosure are two graves of more than ordinary interest to the genealogist: John Shirk and Anna Weaver his wife, ancestors of an influential posterity. He was born May 7, 1746, and died January 27, 1826, aged 79 years 8 months and 13 days. His wife was the daughter of John Weaver and Barbara Buckwalter of the Jacob Weber line, and we, with other genealogists believe that this John Shirk, was the son of Peter Shirk, the first minister of that name. She was born March 19, 1752, in Weaverland, and spent her girlhood days on her father's farm, purchased from John Mendenhall, in 1754, and which now is the farm seat owned by Harry H. Zimmerman, formerly owned by the Kurtz families. They were the grandparents of David Shirk, the miller, Anna Stauffer, mother of John Stauffer, the cattle dealer, great great-grandparents of Elias Stauffer, of Bridgeville, H. L. Stauffer and H. S. Killian, of New Holland; Reuben Sensenich,

of Neffsville, and their first cousins on the Stauffer side; also the same ancestral relations to John J. Shirk, and Harry Shirk, the meat market men, residing in New Holland, and their sisters.

We now pass on to the third generation of Webers, who now gradually changed their names by spelling it Weaver. Legal documents used in the English translation in many instances during the first generation and in some instances families here and there turned back again to the German spelling of their names, "Weber," and have retained it to the present time, but on their tombstones and in their family records the name was invariably "Weber." In this enclosure, there are only a few stones bearing the English spelling before the fourth generation.

**Henry Weber:** The first one of this generation to pass from the scenes of a more than ordinarily busy life, whose life's work assisted to a great extent in preserving the ancestral acres to his posterity as well as in shaping the life and destiny of a goodly portion of the development and stability of the settlement of Waterloo County, in Ontario. Henry Weber, the Third, was born in the original home-stead on the east side of the run, (now all removed by decay) December 16, 1758, and died in the home now occupied by Henry M. Weaver, the Seventh, in that lineage, April 20, 1816, at the age of 57 years, 5 months and 4 days. The reader will please notice that his father, Heine Weber, was still living and remained with the family ten years longer. His widow, Veronica Hershey, died, and a

good marble marker tells us that she was 63 years, 6 months and 14 days old, but gives no dates; however they are 1736-1799.

In 1804 when the German Land Company was formed to free 60,000 acres of land from the encumbrance of a \$20,000 mortgage for the distressed Mennonite settlers in Waterloo County, Canada West, this great man, either guided by the milk of sincere kindness, or by a far-sighted business proposition, but we attribute it to the former motive, subscribed liberally to the payment of the debt, and owned a large block of real estate in that country which he had never seen.

This action not only assisted the distressed Canadian brethren to save themselves from utter ruin and many additional hardships, none of whom had any immediate family relations with the Webers, but it changed their attitude towards the new settlement beyond the great falls, and it likely influenced the future destinies and influences of three-fourths of his descendants forever.

Three years after subscribing for the stock in the German Company, his son, Abraham Weber, moved to Canada with his family, using a Conestoga farm wagon to convey his family and small stock of goods to their new home which was made on Lot No. 15, of the plot of the German Company, which proved to include the location of future Berlin, or Kitchener, as it is now called, and one of the principal streets in the city bears the name "Weber Street," and the self-same wagon used for the conveyance of the goods to their new home is now preserved in the museum of the Waterloo

County Historical Society at Kitchener. A photograph and a short sketch of these historical facts appear in the 1913 volume of that society's proceedings.

Three years after his death, found three more of his sons, Henry, Benjamin, and Daniel located on three more lots belonging to the Canadian Land Company. These young sons and their families grew up with the country, were exceedingly prosperous and influential in the church, and in material wealth; only a few descendants ever returned to Pennsylvania to live here. Many of them however visited the scenes of their ancestors' homes and with respect to their memory visited this small plot of ground, wondering what it might all contain which might connect them with its history, of which they had heard so much traditionally.

**Christian Weber**, single man: Heine Weber had another son, by the name of Christian, whose inability to properly care for himself, made it necessary for a kindly provision in the will of the father for his maintenance. He died October 8, 1821, aged 59 years, 8 months and 9 days. His grave is marked in the third row, No. 5.

**Anna Weber Horst:** Their sister, Anna Weber, married to David Horst, living in Caernarvon township, was brought here from the farm long since known as the William Koch home, where they lived during their entire married life. She died June 14, 1823, aged 56 years, 8 months and 27 days. Her husband, David Horst, was born September 12, 1769, and died May 15, 1845, aged 75 years, 8 months and 3 days. Their

graves are located in row 3, No. 1 and No. 2. He was one of the executors of the will in the settlement of the estate of Heine Weber. They left a large family, but only one of them—a daughter, Elizabeth Horst, wife of Joseph Weber, who died February 14, 1826, at the age of 23 years, 8 months and 16 days, was buried on this plot. Her grave is marked as being in the fifth row, No. 9. She left two children, Anna, or Nancy Weaver, married to Cyrus Hoover, lived and died in Wayne County, Ohio, and Levi H. Weaver, a minister in the Brethren church, died in Elkhart County, Indiana, buried at Clinton (Brick) Mennonite church.

**Samuel Weber:** Son of Christian Weber and Magdalena Rutt, rests near his parents, in row one. He was born May 24, 1759, and died February 9, 1825, aged 65 years, 8 months and 25 days. His wife, Anna Heatwole, who was married and had a small family when her father, Mathias Heatwole, and the rest of the family moved from Earl township, Lancaster county, Pa., to the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia. She was born June 23, 1765, and died October 3, 1808, at the age of 43 years, 3 months and 10 days. They reared a large family, lived on a small farm of 12 acres near the original Henry Weber homestead, now (1933) owned by Mrs. Aaron Horst, but none of their family was buried in the old family graveyard. The Weaver meeting house and graveyard near Harrisonburg, Virginia, bears its name from Samuel Weaver, one of their sons, who was one of the pioneer members of that congregation. One of the daughters of that pioneer family was Frances Wea-

ver, who became the mother of Evangelist John S. Coffman, and the late preacher, Joseph Coffman, of Virginia.

**Christian Weber**, a brother to Samuel, and another son of Christian has his tomb marked as lying beside his mother. He died April 13, 1823, aged 69 years and 20 days. He lived in Cocalico township. None of his family were brought here. His wife, who was Anna Long, and their son, Joseph, were interred in the Metzler graveyard, in West Earl.

**Peter Weber**, another son of Christian Weber and Magdalena Rutt, a brother to Samuel, lies in row 8. He was born March 7, 1761, and died April 7, 1837, aged 76 years and 1 month. His wife Veronica Wenger, died August 17, 1843, aged 77 years, 9 months and 29 days. The upper part of his tombstone was broken off by some means, some time after 1912, when a record of all the graves was taken, and the inscription on the marble stone was lost or taken away, but the above is the correct data as copied at that time. The tombstone of his wife stands beside the broken stone and can readily be located. These people were the grandparents of the late Bishop George Weaver, and the great grandparents of the late Bishop Benjamin Weaver. They lived on the farm seat which is now the place of the farm buildings of the farm owned by Henry M. Martin.

**Joseph Weber**, another son of Christian and a brother to Samuel, Christian and Peter, and his wife Maria Burkholder, a daughter of Bishop Christian Burkholder, are found in row 8, Nos. 6 and 7. He was born Septem-

ber 9, 1768, and died February 6, 1844, aged 75 years, 4 months and 27 days, and she died August 23, 1823, aged 56 years, 3 months and 15 days.

They were the parents of a large family, only one of whom is buried in this place. Her name was Magdalena, who remained with her father to the time of his death, when she married William Nice, of Montgomery county. After the death of her husband she came to her old home and is buried near her parents. She was born September 16, 1794, and died June 1, 1882, aged 87 years, 8 months and 16 days.

**Benjamin Weaver**: In the tenth row, grave No. 7, lie the remains of another member of the third generation, a son of Henry Weber, in the George Weber line, who died at the ancestral home. He died at the ripe age of 84 years, 11 months and 3 days, on April 24, 1857. His first wife, who was Maria Shirk, a daughter of John Shirk and Anna Weber, before mentioned, lies next to him, grave No. 8. She died February 9, 1806, at the age of 28 years, leaving several children. His second wife, Maria Sensenig, daughter of Michael Sensenig, in the same row, grave No. 6, was born September 2, 1785, and died November 11, 1873, aged 88 years; 2 months and 9 days.

The only son of this family was Moses Sensenig Weaver, who inherited the ancestral homestead of George Weber, where he lived during his lifetime, and was buried in the cemetery near the meeting house. He was the father of S. Lemon, Moses W., and Benjamin F. Weaver, Alice Martin and Martha Zimmerman.

**Elizabeth Martin**, wife of John S. Martin, is the only one of the children of Benjamin Weaver, who died in mature age to be interred in this plot. She was born on the original George Weber homestead, February 9, 1799, and died on the northern section of this original farm, given to her by her father, January 31, 1833, aged 33 years, 10 months and 25 days.

**John S. Martin**, her husband, a grandson of Bishop Henry Martin, and a great grandson of the first colonist, David Martin, was born March 5, 1800, and died at the home where his wife died, which is the present home of Martin B. Sauder, March 20, 1868, aged 68 years and 15 days. Their graves are in row eight, Nos. 14 and 16. It may be worth while to say that this John S. Martin is the only one of his father's family to be resting in Lancaster County.

**Anna Weaver Shirk:** In the ninth row, grave No. 4, lie the remains of Anna Weaver, a daughter of Henry Weber, son of George, the first wife of Peter Shirk. (Peter Shirk's second wife was Magdalena Weber, a daughter of Samuel Weber and Anna Heatwole, interred in the first row.) She died February 20, 1816, aged 36 years, 1 month and 15 days, leaving to survive her two sons, John W. Shirk and Henry W. Shirk.

**Peter Shirk**, husband of Anna Weaver, born, February 8, 1780, died January 16, 1826, at the age of 45 years, 11 months and 8 days, leaving to survive him besides the two sons of his first marriage, his widow, Magdalena, who is buried in the Metzler graveyard, and three children, Isaac W. Shirk, later a minister

in the Brethren church, Samuel W. Shirk, and Magdalena, wife of David Z. Wenger, and Jacob Shaub. Of these, only one—John W. Shirk, followed his parents to this historic place. He retained the home farm to the time of his death, being born there September 3, 1810, and died September 27, 1873, aged 63 years, 24 days. His tomb is in the same row, nine, with his parents, grave No. 15. His wife, Franey, or Frances Miller, the mother of his children, lies next to him. She died September 27, 1814, aged 39 years and 4 days. His second wife, Susanna Houck, died December 20, 1886, aged 78 years, 6 months and 6 days.

There are also two infants, and a son, Samuel Shirk, aged 6 months, children of John W., and Franey Shirk, interred in the same row; also three girls, apparently children of Peter Shirk and Anna Weaver, are also near their parents' graves.

**David Weber:** When the four brothers, Abraham, Benjamin, Henry and Daniel Weber, had moved to Canada, as before written, two brothers, or sons of the same family: Francis and David remained on their deceased father's farm, which the family by mutual consent and agreement, divided between them. David, who was born on January 1, 1791, died at the homestead farm and dwelling, now occupied by Harry M. Weaver, December 27, 1868, aged 77 years, 11 months and 15 days. His widow, who was Christiana Buckwalter, who was born February 2, 1797, died August 8, 1882, aged 85 years, 6 months and 7 days. Their graves are marked as being in row six, Nos. 1 and 2, respectively.

The funeral sermon for grandfather Weber was preached by Peter Musser and Benjamin Horning, of Bowmansville, from Luke 2:29-32, and as the children gathered around the grave, he hymn, "Alla menchen mussen starban," was sung. At the house, "Nun guta nacht ihr liebste mein." (From Herald of Truth, February, 1869.) There were eight children in this family but none of them were interred in this place.

Their children were: Moses, bishop in the Pike Mennonite church; John, a minister in the Wissler branch of the Mennonite church in Indiana; David, a minister in the Mennonite church, Harvey County, Kansas; Anna, wife of John Martin, Spring; Mary, wife of John M. Weaver; Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Martin, and Lydia, wife of Henry Musselman, whose second husband was Christian Hershey.

**Francis Weber**, another brother of the Canadian immigrants, lived and died on the old homestead built by his grandfather, in 1764. He was born November 13, 1795, and died February 21, 1875, aged 79 years, 3 months and 8 days. His wife, or widow, survived him a little over five years. She was Mary Buckwalter, a sister to Christina Buckwalter Weber, was born December 27, 1801, and died June 19, 1884, aged 82 years, 5 months and 22 days.

Their graves are in row four, Nos. 11 and 12.

Two sons of this last named family, always kept an interest in this old graveyard of the family, and are among the few of their generation to be buried here.

**Henry B. Weaver**, the older of these two sons, who was born on the homestead built by Heine Weber, of the second generation, died at the same place, August 30, 1923, at the age of 93 years. His wife, Hettie Musser, a daughter of John Musser and Mary Rohrer, was born in Leacock township, May 20, 1833, and died at the Weaver home-stead, March 25, 1889 at the age of 55 years, 10 months and 5 days. Their graves, Nos. 10 and 11, respectively in row 5, are at the head of a row of five children, David, Ada, Adam, Magdalena, and Lydia, aged 2, 7, 1, 3, and 4 years, respectively, and these are, no doubt, the last ones of this family to be interred here.

(Henry B. Weaver was married the second time to Anna Witmer Martin, who died at the age of 95 years, 6 months and 24 days, September 14, 1921. She is buried in the presently used cemetery at Weaverland, by the side of her first husband, David Martin.)

Henry B., survived his brother Francis, eight years, and all the Canadian visitors to Lancaster county, during his last years, who had any remote relationship, with this family, visited him, and as long as he was able to walk over to the old burying ground, he invariably showed them the sacred spot.

**Francis B. Weaver**, the younger of these brothers, who had acquired the David Weber home-stead, when the youngest of the sons of that family, David B. Weaver, moved to Harvey county, Kansas, in the spring of 1880. He was born at the old home so long owned by his brother, Henry B., on February 26, 1835, and

died (on that farm seat of the original plantation which was built for Peter Weber, grandfather of Bishop George, when his father, Christian Weber sold 100 acres to Peter, his son, January 15, 1791), May 27, 1917, at the age of 82 years, 3 months and 1 day. His wife, who was a sister to his brother Henry's wife, Magdalena Musser, was born July 29, 1840, and died at the old David Weber homestead, March 20, 1903, at the age of 62 years, 7 months and 3 days. Their graves in the same row as their brother and sister, graves Nos. 3 and 2, respectively, by the side of one child, Magdalena Weaver, who died at the age of one year in 1873.

Francis B. Weaver was also married the second time, to Anna Martin Zimmerman, born in 1838, and died in 1917, aged 79 years. She is buried by the side of her first husband, Martin Zimmerman, at Mardendale. These two aged brothers were the last of their immediate families to be carried to this place. Not even any of their first cousins were interred here. They often, with their own hands, mowed the weeds and cleaned the underbrush, which accumulated thereon, from the mounds of their beloved dead. The Martin side of the descendants of these ancient sleepers, held a small fund, from which they contributed the interest for the upkeep of the fence around the inclosure, which was finally paid over to the present trustees and caretakers of the place, who are Henry M. Weaver, Sr., son of Francis B. Weaver, and Joseph M. Weaver, son of Henry B. Weaver, whose farm adjoins the inclosure.

**Mary Weaver:** The twentieth grave in the first row, is the resting place of the ashes of Mary Horst, who was the first wife of David B. Weaver, (a brother to Henry and Francis), who was born July 8, 1826, in West Earl township, and died in East Earl township on August 6, 1860, at the age of 34 years and 29 days. At her side is a one-year-old son, David, who died June 30, 1852.

**Jacob Weaver, (Miller),** a great grandson of Christian Weber and Magdalena Rutt, by their son, Jacob Weber and Barbara Witwer, and Daniel Weber and Catharine Landis (the last mentioned were parents of Jacob Weaver, who had a sister, Mrs. Barbara Kepple, living in Honey Brook).

His grave is No. 6, in row two. He died March 2, 1903, aged 83 years, 2 months and 20 days. His wife, Laura Streng, died April 30, 1858, aged 34 years, 4 months and 1 day. Her grave is No. 5 in row 2. His parents, Daniel Weaver, and wife, are buried in the Mt. Zion United Brethren cemetery, several miles west of Cambridge, having lived on the road leading southward from the Summit to Cambridge.

**Sarah Weaver,** their daughter, a single lady, died July 2, 1903, aged 56 years, 5 months and 17 days, lies in the same row with with her parents.

**Mary Weaver,** another daughter, wife of Henry Slote, died at their home at Terre Hill, in 1911, at the age of 63 years. Her grave is in the same row with her parents. She was the first one of her family to be laid with her mother.

**Henry Slote**, a lifelong cigar maker of Terre Hill, the last one of this little family is buried by the side of his wife. He died in the County Hospital, December 1, 1921, at the age of 73 years.

**William Slote**, only child of Mary Weaver and Henry Slote, also a cigarmaker from his youth, died August 13, 1913, at the age of 28 years. His grave is also found in row two, being the first grave.

**John W. Horst:** In the first row, in grave No. 18, rest the remains of John W. Horst, of the fourth generation, in the Henry Weber lineage. His mother was Magdalena Weber, youngest daughter of Heine Weber, who was married to a Mennonite minister of the Hershey congregation, Joseph Horst, who bought the section of the original Weber homestead, bordering on this family plot for his son, John W. Horst, who, although not favorably inclined to allow the patrons and owners of the sacred ground, adjacent to his rich acres to trespass on his premises when the crops were growing, seemingly had great respect to the memory of the quiet sleepers, and finally, at his own request, his body was laid to rest here, within sight of his lifelong home, beside a small daughter, Catharine Horst, who died March 19, 1849, at the age of 7 years and 19 days. His wife, who was Elizabeth Flickinger, feeling that this plot was not kept up properly, directed that she be interred among her family kin, at Terre Hill when she died at the age of 80 years in 1896. It is strange to relate that neither his parents, nor any of his sisters were brought to this place for burial.

**Jacob Weber**, son of Peter Weber and Veronica Wenger, died single, always having his home with his brother, Isaac Weaver after the death of his parents. He died January 14, 1871, aged 62 years, 5 months and 23 days, his tomb and stone being next to those of his parents in the eighth row.

**Anna Landis**, first wife of Joseph Landis and a daughter of John Shirk and Anna Weber, born October 11, 1785, died October 27, 1821, aged 36 years and sixteen days. Joseph Landis lived on the premises now owned by John Hoover, long the home of blind John S. Wenger and his brother, David, and their sisters, Lydia and Barbara. Joseph Landis' second wife was Christena Metzler, who with her husband are sleeping their last rest in the Mohler cemetery, two miles east of Ephrata. Their son,

**Solomon Landis**, aged 22 years and 24 days, died March 19, 1848 and was buried by the side of his father's first wife, the first grave in row nine.

**Mary Magdalena Flickinger**, was born April 16, 1857, and died March 5, 1879, aged 22 years and 29 days. Her family, erected a fine stone to her memory, set in a substantial block, which fell over and broke into two pieces when the grave sank down. The present caretaker, kindly erected the broken end with the greater part of the inscription thereon at the head of her grave. By the side of this grave are interred the remains of her older brother,

**John Flickinger**, whose death took place some years later. His grave was left unmarked, but

his memory still lingers in the minds of his schoolmates at the old Conestoga Brick School, in East Earl township, fifty-five years ago, where his lamented sister, who was often at the head of her classes, and three other brothers spent their childhood days.

**Sallie Flickinger**, a young sister in the family lies in a marked grave in the same row. She died August 1, 187—, at the age of 6 years, 1 month and 24 days.

These young people were nieces and nephew of Elizabeth Flickinger Horst, whose husband owned the adjoining farm, children of Beneville Flickinger and Maria, his wife, who lived a short distance across the fields from there, with their family, and is no doubt the reason for burying their beloved dead in the same row in which their uncle, John W. Horst was later buried. The other members of the family, including the father and mother, were buried in the beautiful cemetery at Terre Hill, where the family resided at the time of their deaths.

**Sarah Corell:** Rests in grave No. 1, row 4. She died March 21, 1848, at the age of about 88 years. She lived on a small tract of land, in a small log house between the banks of the Conestoga creek and the State road, (now known as Route No. 73) being the premises now occupied by John W. Burkholder at that time joining the place long known as Christian Weaver's mill in East Earl township. She was in no way related to the Weavers.

**John Weber:** Son of the daughter of John Shirk, born July 17, 1800, and died October

8, 1823, aged 23 years, 2 months and 21 days. This inscription gives no information as to who his father was, nor to which John Shirk's family the mother belonged. This grave is No. 2, in row ten.

**Isaac Weber, Michael Weber, and Henry Weber**, are no doubt sons of Benjamin Weber, all infants.

Fifteen common field stones, roughly dressed with initials and dates nearly all worn away by the weather and time are found in the enclosure. Most of them are found in the eastern section, the majority of them having the letter "S" for Shirk, or "W" for Weber, with a few of them, we found, the letter "M" for Martin or possibly Miller.

This story gives the positive location of the graves of seventy (70) persons of mature age, having families, or being members of families belonging to, and being a part of the families of the first white settlers and pioneers of these adjacent plantations which section is now known as Weaverland, and who are buried within this little enclosure.

There are twenty (20) children, all but a few of whom have been accounted for, but these fifteen (15) roughly dressed common field stones with letters and dates thereon, I cannot reconcile with any persons definitely to any particular home or families. Some future genealogist or historian in looking up unwritten lore, may be able to place some of these silent testimonials to their proper place.

I feel sure that all these people were of inestimable value to the development of this beautiful vale, and that they deserve better memorials and more

recognition than we, who are reaping the benefit of their labor, their devotion to one another, to their children, and to their church, are giving them.

There are one hundred and six graves marked within this small plot, but there are many reasons to think that there are many graves which do not show any visible indication of ever

having been marked.

Where are all these broad acres, and what constitutes the scope originally covered by the possessions and improvements of these sturdy pioneers who labored here in the development and settlement of "Weber's Thal?"

## *Henry Weber's Section*

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The original plantation as surveyed for him in 1726, after he had applied for it in 1721, containing **Three hundred and sixty-five acres** (365 A.) together with the usual allowance for roads, etc., which when resurveyed and divided into many smaller farms, was found to contain a little over four hundred acres (400 A.). This entire acreage, which was owned and occupied by Henry Weber, the first settler here, and his wife, Maudlin Kendig, with the exception of one field containing about twelve acres without buildings, are today (1933) owned and occupied by some lineal descendant of them or their issue, belonging somewhere into the sixth or seventh generation from them, as will be shown by the following pages.

**Joseph M. Weaver**, of the sixth generation, son of Henry B. Weaver, and Mary Musser, owns and occupies the site of the first farm buildings and the land bordering on the historic graveyard, his present farm buildings being a little east from the original building site as chosen by the pioneer. This part of the old plantation was never out of the direct lineage, excepting for a period of fifteen years, when it was managed by Elizabeth Flickinger Horst, while she held it under her widow's rights as relict of John W. Horst.

**Enos Weaver**, of the seventh generation, son of Joseph M. Weaver owns and occupies that

part of the original plantation bordering on the Conestoga. This home was for a time owned and occupied by Jonas Weaver, a member of the Jacob Weber lineage. At another time it was out of the family name, when it was owned by Martin M. Zimmerman, but he belonged to the original lineage through his great, great grandfather, Joseph Weber.

**Henry M. Weaver**, of the seventh generation, son of Frank M. Weaver, and grandson of Henry B. Weaver, owns and occupies the homestead built by Heine Weber in the year 1864, he being the fourth Henry to be in possession and occupancy of this home; his wife, being in the seventh generation in the lineage of the George Weber family. This farm is about the same acreage and the original buildings remain as they were when the farm was divided in 1817, when this section was allotted to Francis Weaver, the great grandfather of the present owner. This part of the original plantation also extends to the north side of the Conestoga, which shows that the pioneer had some object in view when he chose his boundary along the creek, which was called vacant land at the time of the survey, but later owned by the Shirk families.

**Christian M. Zimmerman**: Owns and occupies that part of the original plantation which was prepared and built for

Christian Weber, and Magdalena Rutt, his wife. Zimmerman is of the seventh generation in the Weber family, through Joseph Weber, his great, great grandfather, who bought this farm seat from this father in 1791, when it contained one hundred acres of land.

**Henry M. Martin**, whose wife, Fanny W. Burkholder, traces to her being in the sixth generation through her grandfather, Isaac Weaver, whose father, Peter Weber, lived on this farm seat, having bought it from his father, Christian Weber, in 1791. This part of the farm was out of the lineage of Henry Weber for some years, when Samuel W. Martin, a grandson of Samuel Weaver, of Cedar Run, of the George Weber lineage owned it. This farm seat is now occupied by a daughter of Mrs. Henry M. Martin, of the seventh generation in this lineage, Mrs. George Zimmerman.

**Harry M. Weaver**, son of Francis B., Jr., and grandson of Francis, Sr., of the sixth generation, and his son,

**Chester H. Weaver**, of the seventh generation now own and occupy that part of the original farm which was first set apart from the old farm seat in 1817, after the death of Henry, the third, and after four of his sons had moved to Canada, when it was allotted to David Weaver, another son and a brother of the Canadian brothers, who retained it during his lifetime, rearing a large family here. At his death it became the property of his youngest son, David B. Weaver, who sold it in 1880, to his cousin, Francis B. Weaver

when he with a large family of children moved to Harvey county, Kansas.

**Elam N. Burkholder**. This farm long the home of Levi W. Weaver, son of Bishop George Weaver, was largely carved from the farms of Joseph and Peter Weber, many years ago, Levi W. Weaver being the sixth and Elam N. Burkholder, of the seventh generation in this lineage.

**Earl Union School** was also carved from this original plantation.

**Anna Weaver Burkhardt**, of the sixth generation of her own family name in the Henry Weber line, by her father, Francis B. Weaver, and of the seventh generation in the same lineage by her marriage to John H. Weaver, deceased, and her present husband, Amos W. Burkhardt, of the sixth generation in the George Weaver line, by his mother, Esther Weaver, daughter of Abraham Weaver, of Cumberland County, reside first after crossing the old Paxton Road, or now known as Route 5.

**Clayton W. Weaver**, of the eighth generation in the Henry Weber line of descent, residing in the ancestral home of his grandfather, Bishop George Weaver, and his great grandfather, Isaac Weaver, resides on the last farm seat westward on this old plantation, the farm being owned by Aaron Z. Zimmerman, passing to him last spring, and another in the line of descent in the eighth generation in the same lineage through his great grandmother, Anna Weber, wife of John Martin, Spring.

## *George Weber's Section*

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**Benjamin F. Weaver**, of the fifth generation, son of Moses S. Weaver, residing on the farm seat of the original plantation, patented in two tracts, applied for in 1721, and surveyed and allotted to George Weber, in 1726, containing together three hundred and fifty-two acres of land (352 A.) lying north, east and southeast from the present brick meeting house, now being operated and cultivated from nine additional sets of farm buildings conveniently erected thereon as the larger tracts were divided and subdivided to suit the successive owners. This set of buildings, or the place occupied by them, were occupied successively by George, Henry, Benjamin, Moses S., and now the present owner.

A note of more than ordinary passing is that in the same family lives the mother of Mrs. Weaver, Mary A. Glouner Zimmerman, whose mother, Lydia Weaver Martin Newswanger, was one of the daughters of Dr. George Weaver, who was the great grandson of the first settler Jacob Weber.

The eastern end of the original David Martin plantation was purchased from one of those descendants, and added to this plantation by Moses S. Weaver, the father of Benjamin F. Weaver, in his young manhood, and when he died his large farm was divided into sections to suit four of his children, and the western section with farm buildings

along the highway, a short distance north of the Weaverland meeting houses are the home and property of one of his daughters also of the fifth generation.

**Martha Weaver**, who with her husband Ex-County Commissioner Samuel G. Zimmerman, and their family, gave a comfortable home to her widowed mother, Maria Wanner Weaver for many years.

**Moses W. Weaver**, another brother, a son of Moses S. Weaver, being of the fifth generation from George Weber, is residing on the eastern section of his father's farm, which is a part of the original plantation where he and his family are comfortably seated in new set of buildings along the Weaverland road, east, which were built by him.

These three farms were never out of the direct line of descent from George Weber, their ancestors all having lived and died on this plantation.

**William G. Weaver**, of the seventh generation in the Henry Weber line, a son of Benjamin M. Weaver, owns and occupies the northern section of the Moses S. Weaver farm which passed from the George Weber line from S. L. Weaver, in 1896.

**Adam Z. Martin**, of the sixth generation from George Weber, a grandson of Elizabeth, generally known as Betsy Weaver, who was born and grew to womanhood on this homestead, and became the wife of Jacob Mar-

tin owns the original farm seat of the southern end of the farm, which originally contained 153 acres with its allowances. It is occupied and cultivated by his son, Tobias W. Martin, of the seventh generation, whose wife, by the way of showing how we intermingled, belongs to the seventh generation in the Henry Weber line.

**Edwin H. Martin**, also of the sixth generation from George Weber through his grandmother, Anna Weaver, a daughter of Samuel Weaver, at Cedar Run, who was the wife of George Martin, owns and cultivates the middle section of the southern part of the original farm. The beautiful spring which was no doubt the cause of locating the farm buildings here, now belongs to this part of the old farm.

**Levi M. Martin**, of the sixth generation in the Henry Weber line of descent, through his great grandmother, Magdalena Weber, wife of preacher Joseph Horst, of Leacock, owns the western section of the south end farm, with the farm buildings along the highway leading from Blue Ball to Weaverland meeting house.

**Barton M. Horst**, of the sixth generation in the line of Henry Weber, through his great grandmother, Maria Weber, wife of Jacob Horst, owns the extreme eastern section of the southern farm, with farm buildings along Route No. 73.

**Jacob G. Horst**, of the seventh generation in the Henry Weber line through his grandmother Lydia Weaver, occupies a part of the eastern section, with farm buildings along the Weaverland road, east.

**Martin B. Sauder**, is the owner of and occupies the extreme northern end of the original farm of the George Weber grant. His farm buildings are situate at a beautiful spring, and is one of the springs which attracted the first settler when he and his brothers explored the valley for a location. This farm was set apart for Elizabeth Weber, a daughter of Benjamin Weber, of the third generation from George Weber, when she became the wife of John S. Martin, who came back from the rest of his family in Cumberland county. (They are both noted as buried in the old graveyard.) This part of the farm passed from the Weber or Weaver lineage in 1878, when Benjamin W. Martin sold it and moved with his family to Elkhart county, Indiana.

This part of the farm has however, now again returned to become the home of another descendant of the Weaver family, in the person of Mrs. Martin Sauder, whose great grandmother, Anna Weber, the wife of David Horst, was a daughter of Heine Weber, and is noted as being buried in the old graveyard.

## *Jacob Weber's Section*

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Weaverland Graveyard, 1792 to 1933, as it is today, occupies the northeastern corner of the original Jacob Weber grant of 500 acres with the usual allowances.

The Stone Meeting House, next to the graveyard, occupies its place since 1894.

**Harry H. Martin**'s farm occupies the southeastern corner of the same original grant. This section passed from the Weaver lineage, at the death of Eli Weaver in 1891, and has not returned to them since.

**Amos W. Sensenig**'s farm occupies the middle of the same tract, fronting on the Weaverland road. It is occupied by his daughter, Martha Sensenig, wife of Martin W. Zeiset, who is of the seventh generation in the original Jacob Weber lineage, through her grandmother, Fianna Weaver, daughter of Dr. George Weaver, and wife of Peter H. Martin, and her husband, Martin Zeiset, is of the seventh generation in the George Weber line through his great grandmother, Elizabeth Weaver, wife of Jacob Martin.

**Isaac H. Nolt**, occupies and owns a long stretch of land, divided into two farms lying on both sides of the Blue Ball run, along the south side of the Weaverland road, west. This entire scope passed from the Jacob Weber lineage in 1792, and never returned to any of his descendants, but in 1836, when Leah Stauffer became the wife of

Henry Martin, she being a grand daughter of Peter Weber, it became the home of her and some of her children for sixty-four years, all being in the lineage of Henry Weber, her children being of the sixth generation in that line. Since the Martin family moved away it was the home of Mrs. Isaac Nolt, and her children, she being of the sixth generation in the same lineage, through her grandfather, Isaac Weaver.

**Mrs. George O. Rutt**, is the owner of the farm south of the east part of the Nolt farm; this section also passed from the Weber lineage, in 1792, and has never returned to any of that lineage. It has remained in the Rutt family since 1792, changing in name only once in 211 years.

**David W. Martin**: The first farm westward from the Rutt farm, lying south of the west section of the Nolt farm, left the Jacob Weber family in 1788, and was repossessed by one of their lineage in the person of

**Samuel M. Weaver**, a son of Dr. George Weaver. Samuel M. Weaver, being of the fifth generation from the first settler, Jacob Weber, bought this part of the old plantation from the John Gehman estate in 1881 and sold it to the present owner in 1896, having owned a part of the original plantation for fifteen years. To show the lines of descent, it might be of interest and good information to say

that Samuel M. Weaver was the father of Abraham G. Weaver, of Blue Ball, and John G. Weaver, of Ephrata.

**Martin M. Sensenig**, the present owner of the next farm west of the Nolt farms, along the Weaverland road, west, himself a descendant in the Henry Weber line, of the seventh generation, through his grandmother, Anna Weaver, wife of Spring John Martin. His wife, Katie Martin, however belongs to the Jacob Weber line in the sixth generation, through her mother, Finanna Weaver, wife of Peter H. Martin. She was a daughter of Dr. George Weaver, of the fourth generation in the lineage from Jacob Weber. On the same premises also resides Mary Martin, wife of Aaron Z. Hoover, who represents the seventh generation in the same lineage.

**Harry M. Martin**, the present owner of the next farm westward on the south side of the Weaverland road, west of the old Paxton Road, now Route 5, was in the Sauder and Martin families since 1788.

**Adam Oberholtzer**, and his wife **Barbara Martin**, she being the daughter of Annie Weaver and David Martin, is of the eighth generation in the line of descent from Henry Weber and Maudlin Kendig, through Bishop George Weaver, her great grandfather, are the occupants and possessors of the farm along the west side of Route 5, lying between the David W. Martin farm on the south and the Harry M. Martin farm on the north of it.

**Abraham W. Martin**, of the eighth generation in the Henry Weber line, through the line of

his great grandfather, Bishop George Weber, being a brother to Barbara Martin Oberholtzer, owns and occupies the extreme western end of the original Jacob Weber patent, along the road laid out between the Weber and the Ringwalt farms in 1816.

**Marvin V. Brubaker**, the owner of the first farm westward from Blue Ball, along the old Lancaster, New Holland and Blue Ball Pike, now Route 23, whose wife was Alta Musselman, of the seventh generation in the Henry Weber lineage by her grandmother, Lydia Weaver, who was the youngest of David Weaver's daughters.

**Amanda Mentzer**, widow of Samuel S. Mentzer, owns the most southwestern corner of the original tract of 500 acres. This farm passed from the Weaver family when Solomon S. Martin sold it many years ago.

**Village of Blue Ball**. The entire section of Blue Ball, lying north of the present Route 23, being all the dwellings and homes, including the Brethren meeting house and graveyard, the fields belonging to John Landis Herr, and Roland Smith, between the meeting house and the farm of Marvin V. Brubaker, are all carved out of the original farm as applied for in 1721, and surveyed to and for Jacob Weber in 1726, and by a careful scrutiny of the entire tract it will be noticed that only the two small farms now belonging to Amos W. Sensenig, at the east end, and the one belonging to Martin M. Sensenig near the middle of the north side thereof, are now in possession of the descendants of the first settler or ancestor, Jacob Weber.

This same Jacob Weber, also bought 121 acres of land from William Davies, in 1760, in which deed his name was spelled, "Weaver," extending from the Blue Ball Run, westward along the southern boundary line of his larger tract of land, from which the farms of Daniel

W. Geist, Ivan Martin, and part of the Musselman farm as well as the building lots and homes from the old tavern westward were carved. But this did not belong to the original Weber's Thal grant, and does not belong to this story.

## *David Martin Section*

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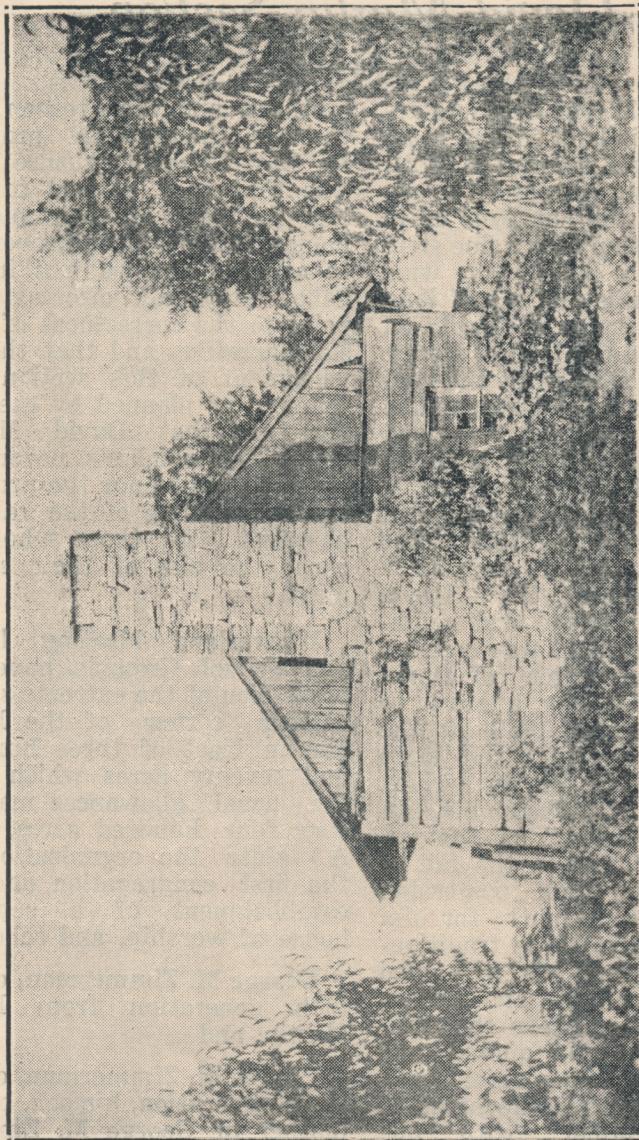
The three Weber Brothers applied for their land survey in an official or legal manner in 1721, they evidently purposely so arranged with the surveyor or in their application that a fine strip of land nearly half a mile wide and over a mile and a half long between the lands of Jacob, on the south and the land of Henry on the north side, while the land of George formed a straight line of the three on the east end thereof, causing their lands to be described as being bounded by vacant land between them in the first survey in 1726. But it is evident that as soon as it was determined that David Martin, their friend and neighbor in Switzerland was coming, they, in the name of David Martin, applied for a grant to him in the year 1726, as the warrant states, for this strip of land. David Martin arrived at the port of Philadelphia, in the ship, "Molley," on September 30, 1727, and in the fall of the same year took possession of the land set apart for him and his family. It is traditionally stated that his wife died enroute to America, and records pieced together prove that tradition is correctly quoted, and that he soon was married to a young widow by the name of Elizabeth Miller, with one daughter, Susanna Miller, of Manor Township. But another traditional narrative, that his first wife, who died at sea, was a sister to the three Weber

brothers, and the reason that they so thoughtfully provided for David Martin's future home was that they desired to give her the best of their pioneer homes, has not been proven authentically, yet we join in the belief that all circumstances point to the correctness of that sad narrative, and that the development of this section was followed as planned by the Webers, and that David Martin and his descendants never disputed the right nor the property of the name of the vale, to be given to those who first chose the site of their settlement.

**Weaverland Meeting House and School Grounds**, have had possession of the extreme southeastern corner of the David Martin tract of three hundred and seventy acres which with the usual allowances made it over four hundred acres, (400 A.) since the organization of the first congregation and the establishment of a separate house of worship, and school.

**George M. Zimmerman**, of the fifth generation from David Martin, and

**Phares M. Zimmerman**, of the sixth generation, his son, by the mother of George M. Zimmerman, Barbara Martin, possess and occupy the eastern part of the original plantation, and that part which borders on the historic graveyard.



A TYPICAL FARM HOUSE OF THE EARLY DAYS  
*The home of the Peter Martin family from 1793 to about 1812.*

**Martin L. Zimmerman**, of the sixth generation owns and occupies the farm next westward. It is said that the original farm seat of David Martin was where these farm buildings were afterwards erected, by the Zimmerman family, near the place of the old original house.

**Amos W. Sensenig**, whose wife, Fianna Martin belonged to the fifth generation from David Martin, being the great granddaughter of Bishop Henry Martin who spent his entire married life on the site of these farm buildings, own, and with their family occupy this beautiful home on an elevation on the west bank of Blue Ball Run. There is a spring of water flowing from the foot of the elevation, below the dwelling, which stood where the old house was destroyed by fire fifty-five years ago, which gives some credence to the claim of this family, that this was the place of the first family home of David Martin.

I well remember both of these old dwellings, but cannot decide in which one David Martin lived and died; but the old low-ceiling, one and a half story house, on the Zimmerman farm, with its quaint low front porch without ceiling, with seed corn, flax, empty bee hives, fishing poles, threshing flails, apple-butter stirrers, and what not stored and hung on the space above the joists, and the quaint low, straw thatched barn on these old premises, is one of the pictures of a primitive farm site in Weaverland, which I fondly hope shall never be effaced from my memory.

These three farms are the only ones within the scope of the original survey to David

Martin, which have never been out of the direct lineage from David Martin. The entire two Zimmerman farms changed the family name, but not the direct line of descent, when George Martin of the fourth generation died, leaving no descendants, then his sister Barbara Zimmerman, made the ancestral home her dwelling place in 1880. The other place changed from Martin, to Sensenig, first in 1913.

On these two farms, is preserved the original plan of irrigating in its most simple and practical form and method as it was employed by the first settlers of this small valley, employing and harnessing the waters of Blue Ball Run to produce annually a luxuriant growth of natural grass for the owners of both farms. The irrigating plant on the Jacob Weber farm higher up on the stream, which was also used to operate a sawmill in its watering process several days in a week, on high, and at present dry ground on the Isaac Nolt farm was allowed to go to decay many years ago.

**Aaron Z. Zimmerman**, of the seventh generation by the line of his great grandfather, John Martin, Spring, owns and occupies the farm seat of the ancestral home of Martin Martin (his history given by A. G. Wanner). He also finds his place in the seventh generation by the lineage through his grandmother, Anna Martin Zimmerman. This farm was out of the Martin lineage for a number of years, while it was owned by the late Adam H. Weaver, and his father, Isaac Weaver.

**Israel Shirk**, not in line with this Martin family, owns the next farm seat, on the Weaverland road, west.

**David W. Martin**, of the seventh generation, son of David W. Martin, usually known as "Maryland David," owns a farm, being a part of Bishop Henry's farm, (but is not of the lineage of Bishop Henry Martin) fronting on the old Paxton Road, now Route 5.

This section of the old plantation was out of the Martin lineage many years, until it was acquired by the father of the present owner.

**Estate of Adam H. Weaver**, and his family own and occupy another farm, which is partly taken from the original Martin Plantation fronting on Route 5. This tract was also out of the Martin's ownership many years.

David W. Martin, of the seventh generation, owns and occupies a private residence fronting the highway, (Route 5) having formerly been a part of the Bishop Henry Martin farm.

**Harvey N. Hoover**, being no lineal descendant of the family, owns and occupies the most southwestern corner or part of the original plantation, the farm buildings fronting on the Weaverland Road, west, which passed out of the Martin lineage when Peter Martin moved to Canada, from this farm in 1819.

**John S. Burkhardt**, having no relationship with the Martin family, owns, and, with his sister, Mrs. Newswanger, occupies the most northwestern section of the original plantation, with other lands.

On these premises near the present dwelling, stands one of the oldest houses in eastern Lancaster County. With its great fire places and large stone chimney at the gable end, its wide, double doors in front and with its wooden latches, stone door-sills, small square windows, mantles and narrow stairways, it stands as a living testimony, telling the present inhabitants of the valley how their ancestors lived and shifted for their living and comfortable existence; and all the more so since tradition tells us that while Peter Martin lived on these premises before he and his fourteen children moved to Canada, they operated this farm, with the one now owned by Harvey N. Hoover, living in this house.

That they owned and operated the entire farm is a matter of record in old deeds, but whether or not they lived in this dwelling when their family had grown in numbers and to manhood, or whether they lived in a spacious stone dwelling which stood on the present farm site of the Hoovers, and which was already called an old dwelling fifty years ago, has often been questioned for many good reasons. It is believed by many reasoning people that Peter Martin and his family lived in the famous old house when their family was small, but when there were eighteen members in the family (two of them having married and remained here) it is more than likely that he erected the large stone dwelling for their comfortable living, and that the pioneer family moving to the Canadian forests, moved from that farm house instead of out of the small old house at the north end of the then large

farm. Be that as it may, many descendants of Peter Martin and his wife, Anna Zimmerman, visiting in Lancaster County from Canada, inquire for the old house where their ancestors lived and from which they moved to Canada, with sixteen children in 1819, and they properly visit it with great respect, and wonder, many of them having made the remark that it is no wonder that they wanted more room and moved away.

The smooth board partitions in the old relic of a home have many names written and carved on them by these Canadian visitors, and hundreds of visitors make interesting entries in their traveling diaries about their visit to the place of their ancestral home.

Mrs. Lydia Newswanger, the caretaker of the quaint old place, provided a book in which visitors are kindly asked to enroll their names and addresses. It is being filled up with many names of visitors from the Dominion.

It may be of interest to note the dividing lines between the several plantations at the east end by stating that the private home of Christian M. Zimmerman, formerly the property of his aunt, Lydia Zimmerman, was taken from the Martin plantation; the next north from this

one now the property of William G. Weaver, and the new brick dwelling grounds were taken from the Henry Weber plantation. But the others to the Conestoga were all taken from the original George Weber plantation. The one nearest to the bridge was sold by Benjamin Weaver, to Frederick Mast, one hundred years ago, last spring.

Besides these nearly sixteen hundred acres which comprised the first settlements and the scope of this intended paper, there were three hundred acres lying directly east of the George Weber tract which were occupied by Christian Schneider, and Henry Martin, in 1730, but neither of them had any interest in the old graveyard. There were also over four hundred acres joining the Henry Weber tract on the north, lying north of the Conestoga, which was occupied by the Shirks from 1754, many of whom found their final resting place within the little enclosure on the Weber and Martin farms. Also a part of the large plantations granted to the Sensenigs, and the Witwers, to the west and northwest of these acres radiating from the little graveyard, were often included as belonging to and being a part of the original "Weber's Thal."

## *Monument to Early Settlers*

Since the story of the Weaverland graveyard and its people was started in The Clarion last November, Franklin M. Weaver, Harry M. Weaver and Joseph M. Weaver, who have been taking care of the old burial place, after consulting several of their immediate friends and relatives and receiving substantial assistance from those who were greatly interested in perpetuating the memory of the silent sleepers in the sacred enclosure, erected a fine monument to the memory of those whose names had altogether disappeared from the markers over their graves, as well as to some of those whose little monuments of ordinary field stones were fast crumbling to decay, and also kindly adding several names of their ancestors' families who repose in the Martin graveyard, in Waterloo County, Ontario.

The marker is 34 by 37 inches by 12 inches. On its face is the inscription:

"This Stone Erected to the Memory of the First Settler,

### HENRY WEBER"

On the back or reverse side are these names:

Henry Weber, 1690-1745  
 Maudlin Kendig  
 Heine Weber, 1736-1826  
 Eva Hershey  
 Henry Weber, 1758-1816  
 Feronica Hershey  
 Benjamin Weber, 1786-1863  
 Abraham Weber, 1788-1847  
 David Weber, 1790-1868  
 X Henry Weber, 1793-1862  
 — Francis Weber, 1796-1875

Daniel Weber, 1797-1864

Henry B. Weber, 1830-1922

Francis B. Weber, 1835-1917

All of the names thereon are included in the story in some particular place. Benjamin Abraham, Henry, and Daniel, moved to Canada when that colony was in its infancy, prospered and remained there with their families while their two brothers, David and Francis, remained on the old plantation.

In the graveyard near the stone meetinghouse started in 1792, stands a granite stone to the memory of another line of the Weber family, together with a line of one of the numerous lines of the Martin family, with the following historical data:

### Weber

Hannes Weber (Switzerland)  
 1721

Henry Weber, 1690-1745

Christian Weber, 1732-1820

Samuel Weber, 1759-1825

Christian Weber, 1785-1854

Gideon Weber, 1815-1892

### Martin

Andrew Martin, 1759

David Martin, 1784

George Martin, 1742-1828

X Abraham Martin, 1765-1847

George Martin, 1796-1859

X Abraham Martin, 1827-1895

Both these memorial stones with their numerous lettering and many dates were designed, carved and erected by T. M. Storb's Sons, of New Holland, and reflect great credit for their helpfulness and workmanship, in their ability in giving so much history on the limited spaces.



